

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
creating a play list;
occasionally connecting a portable device of a user to a network;
submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through the network [[:]]; ~~wherein the multimedia content provider gathers~~ gathering multimedia content specified in the play list;
downloading the multimedia content to a multimedia content cache in the portable device;
disconnecting the portable device from the network;
playing the multimedia content on the portable device;
recording ~~the user's~~ feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list; and
uploading the ~~user's~~ feedback to the multimedia content provider when connected to the network, wherein the multimedia content provider uses the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user; and
selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the multimedia content cache in the portable device.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein creating the play list comprises:
creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: ~~a user's specifications by~~ the user, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;
expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional content ~~not even related to the user's~~ unrelated to preferences of the user; and
refining the expanded initial play list based on the ~~user's~~ feedback.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein expanding the initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the portable device comprises a computer.
5. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein playing the multimedia content comprises accessing the multimedia content and rendering the multimedia content to the user.
6. (Original) The method for claim 5, wherein accessing the multimedia content comprises at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.
7. (Original) The method for claim 1, wherein the network comprises at least one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.
8. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - connecting occasionally to a portable device through the Internet;
 - accepting a play list of multimedia files from a user of the portable device;
 - modifying the play list by recommending to the user additional content ~~not even related~~ unrelated to the user's preferences;
 - searching a database for multimedia content according to the modified play list;
 - processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is downloaded;

transferring the multimedia content to the portable device;
receiving feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list; using the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user; selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the portable device while connected;
and
obtaining opinion of the additional content from the user for marketing purposes.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the occasionally-connected portable device comprises a computer.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein processing the multimedia files comprises at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the database comprises at least one of static and dynamic multimedia content.

12. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a play list creator capable of creating a play list of multimedia files accepted and arranged by a user, wherein the play list creator comprises:

a user feedback uploading mechanism capable of recording feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list, and

a recommendation mechanism capable of using the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user; and

a multimedia content provider capable of providing the multimedia files specified by the play list for a user to download;

a portable multimedia content cache capable of receiving the multimedia files through a network while occasionally connected and storing the multimedia files; and

a portable multimedia content player capable of accessing and rendering the multimedia contents to the user.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the play list creator further comprises:

a play list generating mechanism capable of generating a play list; and

a pre-determining mechanism capable of at least one of the following:

receiving parameters specifying the user's preferences, loading a user pre-defined play list, and providing a number of play lists pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;

and wherein the recommendation mechanism is further capable of expanding the play list by recommending additional multimedia files; ~~and~~

~~a user feedback uploading mechanism capable of uploading the user feedback to refine the play list.~~

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the multimedia content provider comprises:

a communication port;

a multimedia content database;

a searching mechanism capable of searching the multimedia content database for multimedia files in the play list; and

a content processing mechanism capable of at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the portable multimedia content cache comprises:

- a communication port;
- a receiving component capable of downloading and receiving the multimedia files from the multimedia content provider through a network; and
- a storage component capable of storing the multimedia files.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the portable multimedia content player comprises:

- a multimedia content access module capable of at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia files stored in the portable multimedia content cache; and
- a multimedia content rendering mechanism capable of rendering the multimedia files to a user.

17. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for caching multimedia content to a portable device by:

- creating a play list based on titles accepted by a user of the portable device;
- submitting the play list to a multimedia content provider through a network while the portable device is occasionally connected;
- downloading multimedia content in the play list to the portable device when the portable device is connected to the multimedia content provider and caching the multimedia content on the portable device;

and

playing the cached multimedia content while the portable device is not connected to the multimedia content provider;

recording feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list;

uploading the feedback to the multimedia content provider when connected to the network, wherein the multimedia content provider uses the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user; and

selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the multimedia content cache in the portable device.

18. (Original) The article of claim 17, wherein the content for creating a play list comprises content for:

creating an initial play list based on at least one of the following: the user's specifications, a play list pre-defined by the user, and a play list pre-determined by the multimedia content provider;

expanding the initial play list by recommending to the user additional content based on the user's preferences; and

refining the expanded initial play list based on the user's feedback.

19. (Original) The article of claim 18, wherein the content for expanding the initial play list comprises cross-pollinating the initial play list using play lists of other users.

20. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17, wherein the portable device comprises a computer.

21. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the content for playing the multimedia content comprises content for accessing the multimedia content and content for rendering the

multimedia content to the user.

22. (Original) The article for claim 21, wherein the content for accessing the multimedia content comprises content for at least one of the following: unpacking, decrypting, decompressing, and decoding the multimedia content.

23. (Original) The article for claim 17, wherein the network comprises at least one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, the Internet, a terrestrial broadcast network, and a wireless network.

24. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a machine accessible medium having content stored thereon, wherein when the content is accessed by a processor, the content provides for distributing multimedia files by:

accepting or rejecting titles in a play list of multimedia files recommended by a content provider;

searching a database for multimedia content according to the play list;

processing the multimedia content before the multimedia content is downloaded;

and

transferring the multimedia content to an occasionally-connected portable device while connected;

receiving feedback from the user about the multimedia content specified in the play list, wherein the feedback comprises a plurality of ratings, each rating of the plurality of ratings corresponding to a respective title of the multimedia content specified in the play list;
and

using the plurality of ratings to provide recommended multimedia content to the user;

selectively downloading the recommended multimedia content to the portable device while connected.

25. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 24, wherein the occasionally-connected device comprises a computer.

26. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the content for processing the multimedia files comprises content for at least one of the following: packaging, encrypting, compressing, and encoding the multimedia files.

27. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the database comprises at least one of static and dynamic multimedia content.